

For Immediate Release December 4, 2017 Media Contact: Terry Horstman

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Registration Opens for 2018 Invest in Kids Scholarship Granting Organizations

SPRINGFIELD – Groups seeking approval as Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs) under the recently enacted Illinois income tax credit scholarship program, Invest in Kids (IIK), may now apply online through the Illinois Department of Revenue's (IDOR) free account management program MyTax Illinois. SGO applications for the 2018-19 school year will be accepted until January 15, 2018. SGOs must apply for renewal each year.

SGOs are non-profits that, after approval by the Department, can receive qualified contributions from individuals and businesses to be disbursed in the form of scholarships to eligible students to attend qualified, non-public schools in Illinois. Scholarships are paid directly to the qualified school by the SGO on behalf of the student. SGOs may begin accepting scholarship applications as soon as they are approved as an SGO. SGOs shall begin granting scholarships no later than February 1, 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. SGOs cannot accept contributions before January 2, 2018.

The IIK application process for taxpayers wishing to make qualified contributions to SGOs begins January 2, 2018, and is only available online through MyTax Illinois. Taxpayers approved by IDOR can receive an income tax credit equal to 75% of their total qualified contributions made to one or more SGOs, up to a \$1 million credit per taxpayer per year. IDOR is authorized to issue up to a total of \$75 million in IIK tax credits per calendar year.

SGOs should be aware that potential contributors must first set up a MyTax Illinois account and be approved by the Department before making an authorized contribution. Potential contributors should be advised to allow 7-10 days to receive a letter ID via mail from IDOR to complete set up of their MyTax Illinois account.

For more information on the IIK income tax credits, including bulletins and FAQs, please visit lnvestinkids.illinois.gov. Questions may be emailed to: REV.PRD@illinois.gov.

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